

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMAL REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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1. The special gun unit in Weissenfels is under the command of the 57 Guards Rifle Division. It is supplied by the divisional supply unit in the Grochnitzerstrasse (so-called "Ketsch" unit) and went with the division on maneuvers at Eisenach.
2. The unit consists of two batteries of four troops, each troop having seven SU 152 mm guns and six or seven command armored force vehicles (apparently KV 85's armed only with machine guns.)
3. The 57 Guards Rifle Division also has an artillery regiment of two batteries of twelve 76 mm guns and one battery of twelve 122 mm howitzers.
4. There are indications that the division is to become fully motorized in the near future. Much driving instruction has been observed, new vehicles have arrived, and two transport trains, each of 250 horses, have departed for the East.
5. In addition, the rifle units have been issued a superheavy machine gun, gas-operated similar to a Hotchkiss, on a two-wheeled carriage. It is not yet known whether these are to replace or are in addition to the old watercooled machine.

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